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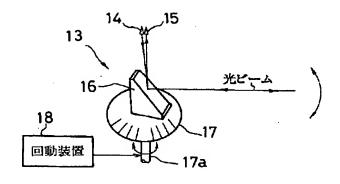
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#### (54) 【発明の名称】 複合形レーダセンサ

# (57)【要約】

【課題】超音波レーダセンサの不感ゾーンを補う光レー ダセンサの監視領域を拡大することで、センサの近傍か ら遠方まで広い領域で物体検出が可能な複合形レーダセ ンサとする。

【解決手段】光レーダセンサ13の発光器14からの光 ビームを反射して外部に投光する反射器16を基台17 に固定し、回動装置18で基台17を介して反射器16 を回動し、外部に投光する光ビームを左右に走査し、光 レーダセンサ13の物体監視領域を拡大する構成とし た。



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#### 【特許請求の範囲】

【請求項1】超音波を物体監視領域に放射しその反射波の有無に基づいて物体の存在/不存在を監視する超音波レーダセンサと、光ビームを前記物体監視領域に投光しその反射光の有無に基づいて物体の存在/不存在を監視する光レーダセンサとを備えた複合型レーダセンサにおいて、

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前記光レーダセンサの光ビームを、前記物体監視領域を 含む領域で走査するように構成したことを特徴とする複 合型レーダセンサ。

【請求項2】前記超音波レーダセンサが、超音波の放射から反射波が受信されるまでの経過時間から物体までの距離を算出する距離検出手段を有し、前記光レーダセンサが、光ビームの投光から反射光が受光されるまでの経過時間から物体までの距離を算出する距離検出手段を有する構成であり、前記両距離検出手段の検出結果が一致するか否かを確認する一致確認手段を設け、該一致確認手段の一致確認出力に基づいて超音波レーダセンサと光レーダセンサの検出性能が正常か否かを検査する構成とした請求項1に記載の複合形レーダセンサ。

【請求項3】前記超音波レーダセンサと光レーダセンサの互いに重複する監視領域の両端近傍にそれぞれ反射体を配置し、該反射体からの反射光による受光出力に基づいて光レーダセンサ正常か否かを検査する光レーダセンサ検査手段を備え、該光レーダセンサ検査手段の正常判定を条件に、前記一致確認手段の一致確認信号を有効とする構成とした請求項2に記載の複合形レーダセンサ。

【請求項4】前記光レーダセンサは、光ビームを発生する光ビーム発生手段と、受光手段と、発生した光ビームを前記監視領域を含む領域を走査するよう反射すると共に、前記監視領域を含む領域からの反射光を前記受光手段へ反射する光ビーム走査手段と、前記受光手段の受光出力に基づいて物体の存在/不在を判定する判定手段とを備えて構成した請求項1~3のいずれか1つに記載の複合形レーダセンサ。

【請求項5】前記光ビーム走査手段に、半導体ガルバノミラーを用いた請求項4に記載の複合形レーダセンサ。 【発明の詳細な説明】

# [0001]

【発明の属する技術分野】本発明は、超音波レーダセンサと光レーダセンサを組み合わせた複合形レーダセンサに関し、特に、至近距離の物体検出性能を高めた複合形レーダセンサに関する。

#### [0002]

【従来の技術】レーダセンサは、送信信号の入力により送信器から監視空間へ送信波を送出し、物体(例えば人)があるとそこで反射された送信波の一部が反射波として戻ってきて受信器で受信され受信信号を得る。送受信器と物体までの距離を Δ L、送信信号と反射波の受信信号の時間差を Δ t、送信波及び反射波の空間伝搬速度 50

をVt とすると、 $2 \times \Delta L = V$ t  $\times \Delta$ t の関係式が成立する。従って、時間差 $\Delta$ t を測定することで、物体までの距離 $\Delta$ Lを知ることができる。

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【0003】このような測定原理を利用したレーダセンサの例に超音波レーダセンサがある。これは、送信信号により超音波素子を機械的に振動させて超音波を発生させ、その超音波を送信波として監視空間へ送出し、反射波を超音波素子で受信して電気信号に変換し受信信号を得る。しかし、超音波レーダセンサは、センサ近傍を監視できないという問題がある。その理由は、送信信号が消滅しても超音波素子の機械的振動が即座には無くならず減衰しつつしばらく継続する。即ち、残響が残るためである。図12にその様子を示す。

【0004】送信信号Seの入力で送信用超音波素子で生じた超音波が空間或いは構造体等を経由して受信用超音波素子に伝わると、受信用超音波素子は機械的に振動する。図12で送信信号Seと同時に受信信号Srが生じているのはその理由による。そして、送信期間を過ぎて送信信号Seが消滅しても、図12に示すように受信側にしばらくの間残響が残り、この残響期間では物体からの反射波があっても残響に埋もれてしまって区別できないため検出できない。反射波を識別できるのは残響期間後(図中の反射波受信期間)になる。

【0005】即ち、超音波レーダセンサでは、センサ近傍に物体監視ができない不感ゾーンが存在する。超音波レーダセンサでは、多くの場合一つの超音波素子が送受信を兼ねているので、この残響の影響、即ち、不感ゾーンの問題は避けられない。一方、光レーダセンサは、発光素子から光ビームを空間へ投光し、物体からの反射光を受光素子で受信する。発光素子は電気信号を光信号へ変換し、受光素子は光信号を電気信号へ変換するが、この変換は共に速やかに行われるので、前述の超音波レーダセンサのような問題、即ち、不感ゾーンの問題は生じない。しかし、光ビームは環境(雨や霧等)の影響を受け易いので、遠方の物体検出性能の信頼性は超音波レーダセンサに比べて劣る。

【0006】そこで、図13及び図14に示すような、超音波レーダセンサ1と光レーダセンサ2を組み合わせた複合レーダセンサ3が実用されている。かかる複合レーダセンサ3では、超音波レーダセンサ1は比較的遠方までの物体を検出し、光レーダセンサ2はセンサ近傍の物体を検出する役割分担となってる。図中、1a,1bは超音波素子、1c,1dはホーン、2a,2bは、発光素子、受光素子を示す。

#### [0007]

【発明が解決しようとする課題】しかしながら、従来の複合形レーダセンサ3では、光レーダセンサ2の発光素子2aから投光される光ビームの光軸は固定されている。そして、光ビームはほとんど拡散しないと考えられるので、光レーダセンサ2では光ビームの光軸上の物体

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しか検出できない。このため、超音波レーダセンサ1の 不感ゾーンに当たるセンサ近傍では、物体監視領域が光 レーダセンサ2の光軸上に限定されて極めて狭い領域し か物体検出ができないという問題がある。

【0008】本発明は上記の事情に鑑みなされたもので、センサの近傍から遠方まで広い領域で物体検出が可能な、超音波レーダセンサと光レーダセンサを組み合わせた複合形レーダセンサを提供することを目的とする。 【0009】

【課題を解決するための手段】このため、請求項1に記載の発明では、超音波を物体監視領域に放射しその反射波の有無に基づいて物体の存在/不存在を監視する超音波レーダセンサと、光ビームを前記物体監視領域に投光しその反射光の有無に基づいて物体の存在/不存在を監視する光レーダセンサとを備えた複合型レーダセンサにおいて、前記光レーダセンサの光ビームを、前記物体監視領域を含む領域で走査するように構成した。

【0010】かかる構成では、光レーダセンサによる物体監視領域が扇状に広範囲になる。従って、超音波レーダセンサでは物体監視ができない至近領域も広範囲に監視できるようになる。請求項2に記載の発明では、前記超音波レーダセンサが、超音波の放射から反射波が受信されるまでの経過時間から物体までの距離を算出する距離検出手段を有し、前記光レーダセンサが、光ビームの投光から反射光が受光されるまでの経過時間から物体までの距離を算出する距離検出手段を有する構成であり、前記両距離検出手段の検出結果が一致するか否を確認する一致確認手段を設け、該一致確認手段の一致確認出力に基づいて超音波レーダセンサと光レーダセンサの検出性能が正常か否かを検査する構成とした。

【0011】かかる構成では、超音波レーダセンサと光レーダセンサの重複する監視領域に物体が存在し、両レーダセンサから距離検出信号が発生した時に、両レーダセンサの検出性能が正常か否かを検査できるようになる。請求項3に記載の発明では、前記超音波レーダセンサと光レーダセンサの互いに重複する監視領域の両端近傍にそれぞれ反射体を配置し、該反射体からの反射光による受光出力に基づいて光レーダセンサ正常か否かを検査する光レーダセンサ検査手段を備え、該光レーダセンサ検査手段の正常判定を条件に、前記一致確認手段の一致確認信号を有効とする構成とした。

【0012】かかる構成では、超音波レーダセンサと光レーダセンサの検出性能を検査できると共に、監視領域の幅も確認できるようになる。前記光レーダセンサは、具体的には請求項4に記載のように、光ビームを発生する光ビーム発生手段と、受光手段と、発生した光ビームを前記監視領域を含む領域を走査するよう反射すると共に、前記監視領域を含む領域からの反射光を前記受光手段へ反射する光ビーム走査手段と、前記受光手段の受光出力に基づいて物体の存在/不在を判定する判定手段と 50

を備えて構成した。

【0013】請求項4の発明において、請求項5に記載のように、前記光ビーム走査手段に、半導体ガルバノミラーを用いれば、光レーダセンサを小型化でき、延いては複合形レーダセンサの小型化を図ることができるようになる。

#### [0014]

【発明の実施の形態】以下、本発明の実施形態を図面に基づいて説明する。図1は、本発明の複合形レーダセンサの第1実施形態を示す外観図である。図1において、本実施形態の複合レーダセンサ10は、ケース11内に、超音波レーダセンサ12と光レーダセンサ13が内蔵される。超音波レーダセンサ12は、図13及び図14の従来装置と同様の構成であり、ケース11の前面左右にそれぞれホーンと超音波素子を備えた送信部12Aと受信部12Bを有する。また、光ビームの光軸を左右方向に走査可能な光レーダセンサ13は、ケース11の前面略中央部に配置される。

【0015】次に、光レーダセンサ13の構成について 説明する。本実施形態の光レーダセンサ13は、図2に 示すように、光ビーム発生手段としての発光器 1 4、こ の発光器14に近接して配置された受光手段としての受 光器15、発光器14からの光ビームを反射して外部に 出射する反射器16及びこの反射器16を固定した基台 17の回動軸17aを周期的に正転・逆転駆動する回動 装置18を備えて構成される。反射器16、基台17及 び回動装置18で光ビーム走査手段を構成する。また、 発光器14及び受光器15と反射器16との間に、図3 に示すような、直径約1mm程度の細い2本の光ファイ バ19a,19bを内蔵した光ケーブル19を設け、光 ケーブル19の一端側の一方の光ファイバ19aを発光 器14の発光素子14aに接続し、他方の光ファイバ1 9 b を受光器 1 5 の受光素子 1 5 a に接続し、他端側は 開放して反射器16に対面させる。

【0016】これにより、発光素子14aから投光される光ビームは、光ファイバ19aを通り反射器16で反射されて外部の監視空間へ投光される。そして、物体に当たると反射され、その反射光が投光ビームと略同じ経路を逆進して反射器16へ入射して反射され、光ファイバ19bで導かれて受光素子15aで受光される。そして、光ビームの投光動作に同期して回動装置18により反射器16を基台17を介して回動軸17a回りに周期的に正転・逆転駆動し光ビームを左右方向に走査する。従って、光レーダセンサ13の物体監視領域は、従来の光軸上だけでなく略扇状に拡大される。

【0017】本実施形態の複合形レーダセンサ10は、例えば図4に示すように、光レーダセンサ13ではAの範囲の領域内の物体を検出し、超音波レーダセンサ12では光レーダセンサ13と一部重複するBの範囲の領域内の物体を検出する。尚、本実施形態では、光レーダセ

ンサより超音波レーダセンサの方が遠方まで検出できるよう説明したが、光レーダセンサの方が超音波レーダセンサより検出距離が長くてもよく、光レーダセンサと超音波レーダセンサの監視領域が重複していればよい。

【0018】かかる構成によれば、従来装置の場合は、図4の破線で示すように、近距離では、光レーダセンサの光軸上の物体しか検出できなかったのが、図4の実線で示すように、近距離でも略扇状の領域で物体検出が可能となり、近距離及び遠距離共に広い範囲で物体検出が可能となり、物体検出の信頼性が向上する。上記第1実 10施形態の反射器16の場合には、発光器14及び受光器15を反射器16の上方に配置する構成となるが、図5に示すように、回動軸22回りに回動可能な板状の反射板21を用いて発光器14及び受光器15を側方側に配置する構成とすることも可能である。光ビーム走査手段としての反射板21を、回動軸22回りに周期的に揺動することで、光ビームを略扇状に投光できる。

【0019】このような反射板21の具体例としては、市販のガルバノミラーを用いることができる。また、マイクロマシニング技術を用いて製造される半導体ガルバ20ノミラーを用いれば、反射板を小型化でき、延いては複合レーダセンサの小型化を図ることができる。半導体ガルバノミラーとしては、後述する電磁型ガルバノミラーの外に静電型ガルバノミラーや圧電型ガルバノミラーがある。

【0020】静電型ガルバノミラーは、半導体素子製造プロセスで製造された素子で、ミラーを形成した可動板を静電気力で駆動するものであり、例えば特開平5-60993号公報等に開示されている。また、圧電型ガルバノミラーは、ミラーを形成した可動板を圧電共振で駆30動するものであり、例えば、SPIE-The International Society for Optical Engineering 1991年7月発行の

「Reprinted from Miniature and Micro-Optics; abrication and System Applications Volume 1554」に開示されている。

【0021】ここでは、反射板21として好適な電磁型の半導体ガルバノミラーについて説明する。電磁型半導体ガルバノミラーの構成、動作は本出願人の出願にかかる特開平8-220453号公報に記載されており、その一部を引用して説明する。永久磁石の配置等に異なる点があるが、基本的構成、動作には差異がない。

【0022】簡単に言うと、半導体ガルバノミラーは、 半導体基板に一体形成した、可動板とこの可動板を半導体基板に対し揺動自在に軸支するトーションバーと、可動板の周縁部に設けた駆動コイルと、この駆動コイルに静磁界を与える磁界発生手段と、動板上に形成したミラーから構成されている。図6、図7は、ガルバノミラー120の構成を示す図である。この装置は、検流計(ガルバノメータ)と同じ原理で動作するものである。尚、図6、図7では判り易くするため大きさを誇張して示し50 ている。

【0023】図6及び図7において、半導体ガルバノミラー120は、半導体基板であるシリコン基板102の上下面に、それぞれ例えばホウケイ酸ガラス等からなる上側及び下側絶縁基板としての平板状の上側及び下側ガラス基板103、104を接合した3層構造となっている。上側ガラス基板103は、後述する可動板105上方を開放するようシリコン基板102の左右端(図6における)に積層されている。

【0024】前記シリコン基板102には、平板状の可 動板105と、この可動板105の中心位置でシリコン 基板102に対して基板上下方向に揺動可能に可動板1 05を軸支するトーションバー106とが半導体製造プ ロセスにおける異方性エッチングによって一体形成され ている。従って、可動板105及びトーションバー10 6もシリコン基板102と同一材料からなっている。前 記可動板105の上面周縁部には、可動板105駆動用 の駆動電流と、この駆動電流に重畳する変位角検出用の 検出用電流とを流すための銅薄膜からなる平面コイル1 07が、絶縁被膜で覆われて設けられている。前記検出 用電流は、下側ガラス基板104に後述するように設け られる検出コイル112A、112Bとの相互インダク タンスに基づいて可動板105の変位を検出するための ものである。この検出コイル112A、112Bによる 偏位角検出については後述する。

【0025】また、可動板105の平面コイル107で囲まれた上面中央部には、ミラー108が公知の手法で形成されている。更に、シリコン基板102のトーションバー106の側方上面には、平面コイル107とトーションバー106の部分を介して電気的に接続する一対の電極端子109,109は、シリコン基板102に電鋳コイル法による平面コイル107と同時に形成される。

【0026】上側及び下側ガラス基板103、104の 左右側(図6における)には、前記トーションバー10 6の軸方向と平行な可動板105の対辺の平面コイル1 07部分に磁界を作用させる、互いに対をなす円形状の 永久磁石110A, 110Bと111A, 111Bが設 けられている。上下の互いに対をなす各3個づつの永久 磁石110A, 110Bは、上下の極性が同じとなるよ う、例えば図7に示すように、下側がN極、上側がS極 となるよう設けられている。また、他方の各3個づつの 永久磁石111A, 111Bも、上下の極性が同じとな るよう、例えば図7に示すように、下側がS極、上側が N極となるよう設けられている。そして、上側ガラス基 板103側の永久磁石110Aと111A及び下側ガラ ス基板104側の永久磁石110Bと111Bは、図7 からも判るように、互いに上下の極性が反対となるよう に設けられる。

【0027】また、前述したように、下側ガラス基板1

04の下面には、平面コイル107と電磁結合可能に配置され各端部がそれぞれ対をなす電極端子113,114に電気的に接続された一対の検出コイル112A,112Bがパターニングされて設けられている(尚、図6では、模式的に1本の破線で示したが実際は複数巻回してある)。検出コイル112A,112Bは、トーションバー106に対して対称位置に配置されて可動板105の変位角を検出するもので、平面コイル107に駆動電流に重畳して流す検出用電流に基づく平面コイル107と検出コイル112A,112Bとの相互インダクタンスが、可動板105の角度変位により一方が接近して増加し他方が離間して減少するよう変化するので、例えば相互インダクタンスに基づいて出力される電圧信号の変化を差動で検出することにより可動板105の変位角が検出できる。

【0028】次に、半導体ガルバノミラー120の動作 原理について説明する。尚、動作原理の詳細は前述の特 開平8-220453号公報等に記載されているので、 ここでは簡単に述べる。例えば、一方の電極端子109 を+極、他方の電極端子109を一極として平面コイル 107に電流を流す。可動板105の両側では、永久磁 石110Aと110B、永久磁石111Aと111Bに よって、図7に示すように可動板105の平面に沿って 平面コイル107を横切るような方向に磁界が形成され ており、この磁界中の平面コイル107に電流が流れる と、平面コイル107の電流密度と磁束密度に応じて平 面コイル107、言い換えれば可動板105の両端に、 電流・磁束密度・力のフレミングの左手の法則に従った 方向に力が作用し、可動板105が回動する。可動板1 05が回動するとトーションバー106が捩じられ、こ れによって発生するトーションバー106のばね反力と 可動板105に作用する電磁力とが釣り合う位置まで可 動板105は回動する。

【0029】この時の可動板105の変位角は平面コイル107に流れる電流iに比例する。従って、平面コイル107に流す電流を制御することにより、可動板105、即ちミラー108の変位角を制御することができる。予め平面コイルに流す電流量と可動板の変位角との関係を求めておけば、電流量を制御することでミラー108の変位角を制御できる。

【0030】このミラー108の光軸の変位角を制御する際に、平面コイル107に、駆動電流に重畳して駆動電流周波数に比べて高い周波数で変位角検出用の検出用電流を流す。この検出用電流により、平面コイル107と下側ガラス基板104に設けた検出コイル112A、112Bとの間の相互インダクタンスによる誘導電圧がそれぞれの検出コイル112A、112Bに発生する。検出コイル112A、112Bに発生する各誘導電圧は、可動板105、言い換えれば、ミラー108が水平位置にある時には、検出コイル112A、112Bと対50

応する平面コイル107との距離が等しいことから等しくなりその差は零である。可動板105が前述の駆動力でトーションバー106を支軸として回動すると、一方の検出コイル112A(または112B)では接近して相互インダクタンスの増加により誘導電圧は増大し、他方の検出コイル112B(又は112A)では離間して相互インダクタンスの減少により誘導電圧は低下する。従って、検出コイル112A、112Bに発生する誘導電圧はミラー108の変位に応じて変化し、この誘導電圧を検出することで、ミラー108の変位角を検出できる。

【0031】そして、例えば、検出コイル112A, 112Bの他に2つの抵抗を設けて構成したブリッジ回路に電源を接続し、検出コイル112Aと検出コイル112Bとの中点と2つの抵抗の中点との電圧を入力とする差動増幅器を設けて構成した回路を用い、前記両中点の電圧差に応じた差動増幅器の出力を、可動板105の駆動系にフィードバックし、駆動電流を制御するようにすれば、ミラー108の変位角を精度良く制御することが可能である。

【0032】尚、本発明の複合型レーダセンサに適用する場合、必ずしも検出コイル112A,112Bを設ける必要はない。図8に、本発明の複合レーダセンサ10の応用例を示す。図8では、移動路31に沿って図中の矢印で示すように左右方向に移動する移動体32の前後部に、複合レーダセンサ10,10を設けた例を示している。

【0033】従来のこの種の複合形レーダセンサでは、物体検知領域は図8の点線のようになる。即ち、超音波レーダセンサの不感ゾーンである至近では、光レーダセンサの光軸上のみの極めて狭い領域になっている。このため、移動体32の至近では突然移動路31に出現したような物体は発見し難い。一方、本実施形態の複合形レーダセンサ10,10では、物体検知領域は図8の実線で示すようにセンサの至近から既に扇状に拡がっているので、センサ至近の物体監視領域が従来の複合形レーダセンサに比べて格段に広範囲となり、センサ至近で突然物体が出現した場合でもこれを発見することが可能となる。

40 【0034】従って、移動路31上に例えば人が居るような場合、移動体32は人に衝突する前に停止することが求められるが、この衝突回避能力は、本発明の複合型レーダセンサの方が従来のものに比べて格段に高い。ところで、反射形レーダセンサの場合、センサの故障で超音波や光ビームが発生しない場合、物体無しの場合と区別できない。従って、センサ自体が正常か否かの性能確認が必要になる。

【0035】以下に、本発明の複合形レーダセンサにおける検出性能を検査するため回路構成例について説明する。図9に、検出性能検査回路の構成例を示す。図9に

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おいて、超音波レーダセンサ12には、前述の検出原理 に基づいて送信部12Aの送信信号と受信部12Bから の受信信号とから物体までの距離 Δ L を検出する超音波 レーダセンサの距離検出手段としての距離検出回路 4 1 が設けられている。また、光レーダセンサ13内にも、 発光器14の送信信号と受光器15から受光信号とから 物体までの距離 △ L を検出する光レーダセンサの距離検 出手段及び判定手段として機能する距離検出回路 4 2 が 設けられている。そして、両距離検出回路41,42の 算出結果は出力信号S1、S2として出力される。一致 確認手段としての一致確認回路43は、予め規定した距 離範囲、即ち、超音波レーダセンサ12と光レーダセン サ13の重複監視領域の範囲内において前記両出力S 1. S2が一致しているか否かを確認し、一致している 時には出力信号 S 3 = 1 (論理値1)を出力し、不一致 の時はS3=0(論理値0)を出力する。前記一致確認 回路43には、前記重複監視領域の距離情報が記憶され ており、重複監視領域範囲内でのみ一致確認を行う構成 である。

【0036】次に動作を説明する。今、複合形レーダセ ンサ10における光レーダセンサ13の物体監視領域A と超音波レーダセンサ12の物体監視領域Bとが、図1 0に示すように一部重複するものとする。そして、この 重複監視領域内に物体50が存在するものとする。超音 波レーダセンサ12と光レーダセンサ13が共に重複監 視領域内の距離 Δ L に存在する物体 5 O を検出し、その 検出距離結果が各距離検出回路42.41からS2.S 1として一致確認回路43に入力される。一致確認回路 43では、入力する距離情報が予め記憶した距離情報の 範囲内であることを確認し、この確認に基づいて、両出 力 S 1, S 2 の結果を比較する。そして、一致すれば両 レーダセンサ正常として S3=1を出力し、例えば、こ の正常判定を次回の一致確認動作が行われるまで記憶し ておく。尚、この一致確認回路43では、出力51,5 2からの算出結果が重複領域範囲にある時のみ一致確認 動作を行い、それ以外の監視領域の場合には一致確認動 作は行わない。従って、例えば、重複監視領域範囲内の 物体が検出された時には、一致確認を条件として物体検 出出力を有効とし、重複監視領域範囲外に物体が超音波 レーダセンサ12と光レーダセンサ13のどちらかで検 出された時には、その物体検出出力をそのまま有効とす

【0037】かかる構成では、同一の物体50についてそれぞれのセンサで算出された距離の一致を確認することで、複合形レーダセンサに内蔵された光レーダセンサと超音波レーダセンサの検出機能が正常であることを検査している。また、各レーダセンサ12.13から距離情報S2,S1が得られるのは、物体50が両者の重複監視領域に在る時である。従って、図9の一致確認回路43では検出性能確認と同時に互いのレーダセンサの監50

視領域が重複していることも確認していることになる。 【0038】しかし、図9の一致確認構成では、両レーダセンサ12、13が共に検出能力を失ったような場合 (例えば、光ビームは投光されず、超音波は送信されないような状況)には、例え物体50が重複監視領域内に存在しても物体50を両センサとも検出できず一致確認回路43は物体無しと見なしてしまうので、両レーダセンサ12、13の同時故障はチェックできない。

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【0039】この問題を解決する方法としては、例えば超音波レーダセンサの残響の有無を確認し、残響有りの確認を条件として一致確認回路43が一致確認動作を行うようにすればよい。前述したように、超音波レーダセンサ12の場合、送信直後から所定期間(図12の残響期間)は残響が残るので、この残響を確認することで超音波レーダセンサの検出性能検査を行うことができる。尚、残響確認による性能確認の方法は、従来公知の方法を用いればよい。

【0040】また、図9の一致確認回路43は、物体50が重複監視領域に存在する時にしか性能検査を行うことができない。従って、図9の構成では、物体が重複監視領域に入るまで待つか、或いはレーダセンサ自身が動くしかない。重複監視領域以外でも検出性能検査が行えるようにするには、図10に破線で示すように、重複監視領域に予め反射体61,62を設置し、反射体61,62からの反射の有無を常時監視するようにすればよい。こうすることで、両レーダセンサの送信信号発生毎に重複監視領域に設置された反射体61,62からの反射波が得られ、常時一致確認回路43において一致確認動作が行われ、検出性能検査と監視領域の重複の確認ができる。

【0041】更に、監視領域の幅の確認のためには、重複監視領域の両端にそれぞれ異なる距離  $\Delta L1$  と  $\Delta L2$  の位置に反射体 61, 62 を設置する。こうすれば、距離  $\Delta L1$  に在る反射体 61, 62 を検出できるので、重複監視領域両端の反射体 61, 62 を検出できることの確認により、重複監視領域の幅の確認を行うことができる。

【0042】監視領域の両端に予め反射体を設置しておき、そこからの反射光により光レーダセンサの検出能力の検査を行う方法は、例えば、本出願人の出願にかかる特願平9-305932号等に記載されており、これについて以下に説明する。図11にその検査回路の構成を示す。図11において、反射板21は、駆動回路71で周期的に揺動駆動される前述の半導体ガルバノミラーである。変位検出回路72は、前述の検出コイル112A、112Bの出力に基づいて反射板21の変位角を検出する。パルス生成回路73は、反射体61、62の反射タイミングでパルスを生成する。検出性能検査回路74は、光レーダセンサ13の検出性能検査を行うもので、受光器15の受光信号からパルス生成回路73の発

生パルス信号に基づいて反射体 61.62の反射による信号を抜き出して検出性能正常を確認する。受光器 15、変位検出回路 72、パルス生成回路 73及び検出性能検査回路 74で、光レーダセンサ検査手段を構成している。

【0043】次に、この回路の動作を説明する。尚、詳細な動作は前述した特願平9-305932号に記載されているので、ここでは簡単に説明する。反射板21が反射体61から62までの範囲の監視領域を周期的に揺動すると、反射体21の変位角に対応する振幅で前述の6出コイル112A、112Bに誘導電圧が発生し、変位検出回路72から反射板21の変位角に対応する電圧信号がパルス生成回路73に入力する。パルス生成回路73では、変位検出回路72からの電圧信号とこの電圧信号の位相反転信号とをそれぞれレベル検定し、反射体61、62からの反射光がそれぞれ得られるタンミングでパルス信号を発生する。検出性能検査回路74では、受光器15からの受光信号とパルス生成回路73からのパルス信号とに基づいて、両信号が同期して入力すれば正常と判断して正常確認出力を発生する。20

【0044】このようにすれば、反射板21が反射体61と62の範囲を正常に周期的に走査しており、且つ、反射体61、62からの反射光を正常に受光していることが分かり、光レーダセンサ13の検出性能を検査することができる。そして、光レーダセンサ13が正常であることを条件に一致確認回路43の出力を有効とすることで、常時、複合形レーダセンサ10の検出性能の検査を行うことができ、複合形レーダセンサ10の物体監視の信頼性が格段に向上する。

## [0045]

【発明の効果】以上説明したように、請求項1,4の発明によれば、光レーダセンサによる物体監視領域が扇状になるので、超音波レーダセンサでは物体監視ができない至近領域も広範囲に監視できるようになり、従来の複合形レーダセンサに比べて監視領域を広範囲にでき、物体監視の信頼性を向上できる。

【0046】請求項2の発明によれば、超音波レーダセンサと光レーダセンサの重複する監視領域に物体が存在すれば、両レーダセンサの検出性能が正常か否かを検査できるので、複合レーダセンサの信頼性がより向上でき 40る。請求項3の発明では、超音波レーダセンサと光レーダセンサの検出性能を検査できると共に、監視領域の幅も確認できる。

【0047】請求項5に記載のように、光レーダセンサの光ビーム走査手段に、半導体ガルバノミラーを用いれば、光レーダセンサを小型化でき、延いては複合形レーダセンサの小型化を図ることができるようになる。

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## 【図面の簡単な説明】

【図1】本発明の複合形レーダセンサの第1実施形態の 外観図

【図2】同上実施形態の光レーダセンサの回動機構の概略図

【図3】(A)、(B)光レーダセンサに使用する光ファイバの概略図

【図4】本発明と従来例の監視領域の比較図

【図5】本発明の複合形レーダセンサの光レーダセンサ 回動機構の別の実施形態を示す概略図

【図6】半導体ガルバノミラーの構成を示す図

【図7】図6のA-A矢視断面図

【図8】 本発明の複合形レーダセンサの応用例を示す図

【図9】本発明の複合形レーダセンサの検出性能検査回路の構成例を示すブロック図

20 【図10】光レーダセンサの検出性能検査に用いる反射 体の配置図

【図11】図10の反射体を用いる光レーダセンサの検 出性能検査回路の構成例を示す図

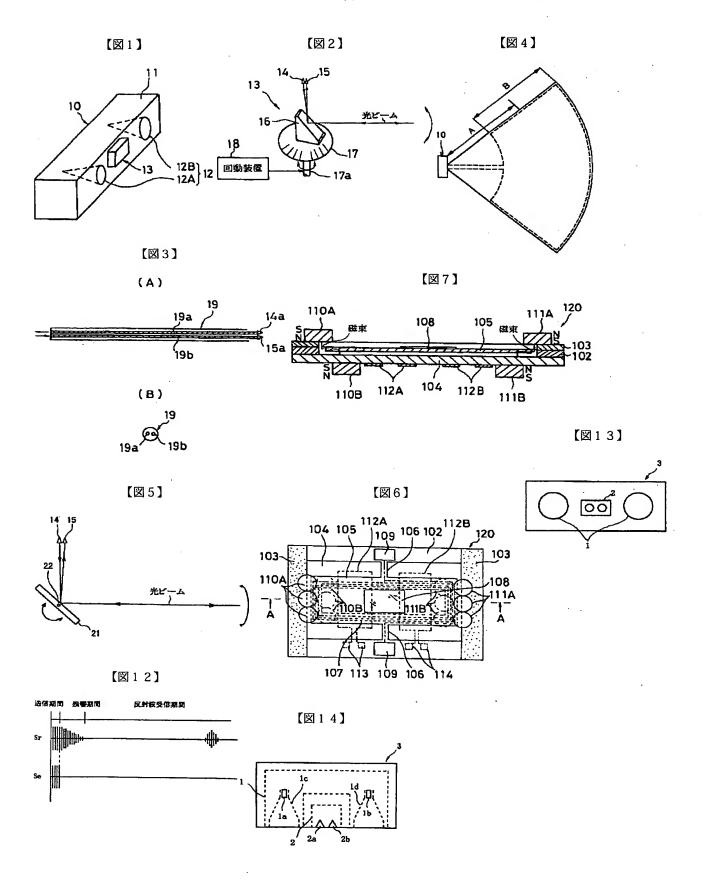
【図12】超音波レーダセンサの残響の説明図

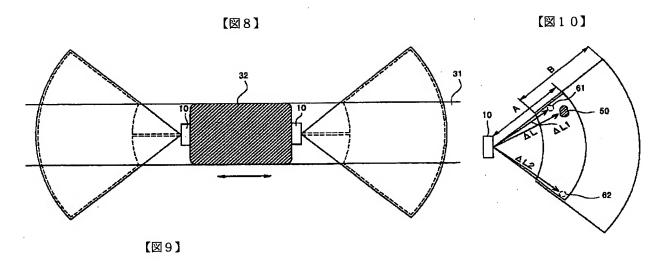
【図13】従来装置の構成図

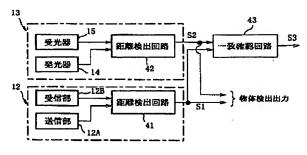
【図14】図13の内部構成の概略図

#### 【符号の説明】

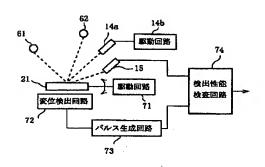
- 10 複合形レーダセンサ
- 12 超音波レーダセンサ
- 30 13 光レーダセンサ
  - 1 4 発光器
  - 15 受光器
  - 16 反射器
  - 18 回動装置
  - 21 反射板
  - 41,42 距離検出回路
  - 43 一致確認回路
  - 50 物体
  - 61,62 反射体
  - 72 変位検出回路
  - 73 パルス生成回路
  - 7 4 検出性能検査回路







[図11]



# フロントページの続き

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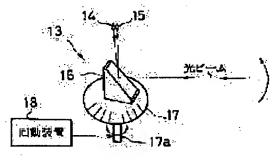
ASADA NORIHIRO YOMOGIHARA KOICHI

# (54) COMPOSITE-TYPE RADAR SENSOR

# (57)Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To enable the detection of a wide range of near and distant objects by scanning an area including an object monitoring area with an optical beam of an optical radar sensor.

SOLUTION: An optical beam projected from the light emitting element of a light emitting device 14 is passed through an optical fiber, reflected at a reflector 16, and projected to an outside monitoring space. Then it hits an object and reflected, and the reflected light travels backward approximately in the same path as the projected beam traveled, becomes incident onto the reflector 16, is reflected and guided to the optical fiber, and is received by the light receiving element of a light receiving device 15. Then the reflector 16 is driven to rotate periodically in normal and reverse directions on a rotating shaft 17a via a base 17 by a rotating device 18 in synchronization with the operation of the projection of the optical beam to scan in right and left directions with the optical beam. Therefore, the object monitoring area of the optical radar sensor 13 is not only in a conventional form in an optical axis but is enlarged approximately to the form of a fan. By this, the



monitoring area has a wider range than that of a conventional composite—type radar sensor, and reliability in monitoring objects is improved.

#### **LEGAL STATUS**

[Date of request for examination]

[Date of sending the examiner's decision of rejection]

[Kind of final disposal of application other than the examiner's decision of rejection or application converted registration]

[Date of final disposal for application]

[Patent number]

[Date of registration]

[Number of appeal against examiner's decision of rejection]

[Date of requesting appeal against examiner's decision of rejection]

# [Date of extinction of right]

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3.In the drawings, any words are not translated.

## **CLAIMS**

[Claim(s)]

[Claim 1] The ultrasonic radar sensor which emits a supersonic wave to a body monitor field, and supervises existence of a body / un-existing based on the existence of the reflected wave, In the compound-die radar sensor equipped with the optical radar sensor which floodlights a light beam to said body monitor field, and supervises existence of a body / un-existing based on the existence of the reflected light The compound-die radar sensor characterized by constituting so that the light beam of said optical radar sensor may be scanned in a field including said body monitor field.

[Claim 2] It has a distance detection means by which said ultrasonic radar sensor computes the distance from elapsed time until a reflected wave is received from radiation of a supersonic wave to a body. It is the configuration of having a distance detection means by which said optical radar sensor computes the distance from elapsed time until the reflected light is received from floodlighting of a light beam to a body. The compound form radar sensor according to claim 1 which established a coincidence check means to check whether the detection result of said both distance detection means is in agreement, and considered as the configuration to inspect whether the detectability ability of an ultrasonic radar sensor and an optical radar sensor would be normal based on the coincidence check output of this coincidence check means. [Claim 3] The compound form radar sensor according to claim 2 which has arranged a reflector, respectively near the both ends of the monitor field which overlaps mutually [ said ultrasonic radar sensor and optical radar sensor ], was equipped with an optical radar sensor inspection means inspect whether it is optical radar sensor normal based on the light-receiving output by the reflected light from this reflector, and considered as the configuration [ be / effective ] of the coincidence acknowledge signal of said coincidence check means on condition of the normal judging of this optical radar sensor inspection means. [Claim 4] While reflecting said optical radar sensor so that a light beam generating means to generate a light beam, a light-receiving means, and the field that includes said monitor field for the generated light beam may be scanned The compound form radar sensor of any one publication of claim 1-3 which equipped with and constituted a light beam scan means to reflect the reflected light from a field including said monitor field in said light-receiving means, and a judgment means to judge existence of a body / absence based on the light-receiving output of said light-receiving means.

[Claim 5] The compound form radar sensor according to claim 4 which used the semi-conductor galvanomirror for said light beam scan means.

[Translation done.]

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# DETAILED DESCRIPTION

# [Detailed Description of the Invention]

[0001]

[Field of the Invention] This invention relates to the compound form radar sensor which raised the body detectability ability of point-blank range especially about the compound form radar sensor which combined the ultrasonic radar sensor and the optical radar sensor.

[0002]

[Description of the Prior Art] If a radar sensor sends out a transmission wave from a transmitter to monitor space by the input of a sending signal and has a body (for example, man), a part of transmission wave reflected there will return as a reflected wave, it will be received by the receiver, and it will obtain an input signal. If space velocity of propagation of deltat, a transmission wave, and a reflected wave is set [the distance to a transceiver machine and a body] to Vt for the time difference of deltaL, a sending signal, and the input signal of a reflected wave, the relational expression of 2xdelta L=Vtxdelta t will be materialized. Therefore, distance deltaL to a body can be known by measuring time difference deltat. [0003] An ultrasonic radar sensor is in the example of the radar sensor using such a measurement principle. This vibrates an ultrasonic component mechanically by the sending signal, generates a supersonic wave, is sent out to monitor space by making the supersonic wave into a transmission wave, receives a reflected wave with an ultrasonic component, changes it into an electrical signal, and obtains an input signal. However, an ultrasonic radar sensor has the problem that it cannot supervise near the sensor. The reason is continued for a while, the mechanical oscillation of an ultrasonic component not being lost immediately, but declining, even if a sending signal disappears. That is, it is for reverberation to remain. The situation is shown in drawing 12.

[0004] If the supersonic wave produced with the ultrasonic component for transmission gets across to the ultrasonic component for reception via space or the structure in the input of a sending signal Se, the ultrasonic component for reception will vibrate mechanically. It is based on the reason that the input signal Sr has arisen in a sending signal Se and coincidence in drawing 12. And even if it passes over a transmitting period and a sending signal Se disappears, as it is shown in drawing 12, while it is for a while to a receiving side, reverberation remains, and in this reverberation period, since it cannot bury and distinguish to reverberation even if there is a reflected wave from a body, it is undetectable. It becomes in a reverberation period (reflected wave receiving period in drawing) that a reflected wave is discriminable. [0005] That is, by the ultrasonic radar sensor, the insensible zone which cannot perform a body monitor near the sensor exists. By the ultrasonic radar sensor, since one ultrasonic component serves as transmission and reception in many cases, the effect of this reverberation, i.e., the problem of an insensible zone, is not avoided. On the other hand, an optical radar sensor floodlights a light beam from a light emitting device to space, and receives the reflected light from a body by the photo detector. Although a light emitting device changes an electrical signal into a lightwave signal and a photo detector changes a lightwave signal into an electrical signal, since this conversion is performed [ both ] promptly, a problem like the above-mentioned ultrasonic radar sensor, i.e., the problem of an insensible zone, is not produced. However, since a light beam tends to be influenced of environments (rain, fog, etc.), the dependability of distant body detectability ability is inferior compared with an ultrasonic radar sensor.

[0006] Then, the compound radar sensor 3 which combined the ultrasonic radar sensor 1 as shown in drawing 13 and drawing 14, and the optical radar sensor 2 is used. By this compound radar sensor 3, the ultrasonic radar sensor 1 detects the body to a distant place comparatively, and the optical radar sensor 2 serves as a role assignment which detects the body near the sensor. 1a and 1b show 1c among drawing, and a horn, 2a, and 2b show a light emitting device and a photo detector an ultrasonic component and 1d. [0007]

[Problem(s) to be Solved by the Invention] However, by the conventional compound form radar sensor 3, the optical axis of the light beam floodlighted from light emitting device 2a of the optical radar sensor 2 is being fixed. And since it is thought that a light beam is hardly diffused, by the optical radar sensor 2, only the body on the optical axis of a light beam is detectable. For this reason, there is a problem that a body monitor field is limited on the optical axis of the optical radar sensor 2, and only a very narrow field can perform body detection near the sensor which hits the insensible zone of the ultrasonic radar sensor 1. [0008] This invention was made in view of the above—mentioned situation, and aims at offering the compound form radar sensor which combined the ultrasonic radar sensor and optical radar sensor in which

body detection is possible in the large field from [ near the sensor ] to the distant place. [0009]

[Means for Solving the Problem] For this reason, the ultrasonic radar sensor which emits a supersonic wave to a body monitor field, and supervises existence of a body / un-existing in invention according to claim 1 based on the existence of that reflected wave, In the compound—die radar sensor equipped with the optical radar sensor which floodlights a light beam to said body monitor field, and supervises existence of a body / un-existing based on the existence of the reflected light, it constituted so that the light beam of said optical radar sensor might be scanned in a field including said body monitor field.

[0010] With this configuration, the body monitor field by the optical radar sensor becomes wide range at a flabellate form. Therefore, by the ultrasonic radar sensor, the near field which cannot perform a body monitor can also be broadly supervised now. It has a distance detection means by which said ultrasonic radar sensor computes the distance from elapsed time until a reflected wave is received from radiation of a supersonic wave to a body in invention according to claim 2. It is the configuration of having a distance detection means by which said optical radar sensor computes the distance from elapsed time until the reflected light is received from floodlighting of a light beam to a body. A coincidence check means to check whether the detection result of said both distance detection means is in agreement was established, and it considered as the configuration to inspect whether the detectability ability of an ultrasonic radar sensor and an optical radar sensor would be normal based on the coincidence check output of this coincidence check means.

[0011] With this configuration, when a body exists in the monitor field to which an ultrasonic radar sensor and an optical radar sensor overlap and a distance detecting signal occurs from both the radar sensor, it can inspect whether the detectability ability of both the radar sensor is normal. In invention according to claim 3, the reflector has been arranged, respectively near the both ends of the monitor field which overlaps mutually [ said ultrasonic radar sensor and optical radar sensor ], and it had an optical radar sensor inspection means inspected whether it is optical radar sensor normal based on the light-receiving output by the reflected light from this reflector, and considered as the configuration [ be / effective ] of the coincidence acknowledge signal of said coincidence check means on condition of the normal judging of this optical radar sensor inspection means.

[0012] With this configuration, while being able to inspect the detectability ability of an ultrasonic radar sensor and an optical radar sensor, the width of face of a monitor field can also be checked. Said optical radar sensor had and constituted a light beam scan means reflect the reflected light from a field including said monitor field in said light-receiving means, and a judgment means judge existence of a body / absence based on the light-receiving output of said light-receiving means, while having reflected so that the field which includes said monitor field for the light beam specifically generated with a light beam generating means according to claim 4 generate a light beam like, and the light-receiving means may scan.

[0013] In invention of claim 4, if a semi-conductor galvanomirror is used for claim 5 like a publication at said light beam scan means, an optical radar sensor can be miniaturized, as a result the miniaturization of a compound form radar sensor can be attained.

[0014]

[Embodiment of the Invention] Hereafter, the operation gestalt of this invention is explained based on a drawing. Drawing 1 is the external view showing the 1st operation gestalt of the compound form radar sensor of this invention. In drawing 1, as for the compound radar sensor 10 of this operation gestalt, the ultrasonic radar sensor 12 and the optical radar sensor 13 are built in in a case 11. The ultrasonic radar sensor 12 is the same configuration as drawing 13 and the conventional equipment of drawing 14 R> 4, and has transmitting section 12A and receive section 12B which equipped front right and left of a case 11 with the horn and the ultrasonic component, respectively. Moreover, the optical radar sensor 13 which can be scanned to a longitudinal direction is arranged in the front abbreviation center section of the case 11 in the optical axis of a light beam.

[0015] Next, the configuration of the optical radar sensor 13 is explained. As shown in drawing 2, the optical radar sensor 13 of this operation gestalt is equipped with the rotation equipment 18 which carries out normal rotation / inversion drive of the rotation shaft 17a of the pedestal 17 which fixed the photogenic organ 14 as a light beam generating means, the electric eye 15 as a light-receiving means arranged by approaching this photogenic organ 14, the reflector 16 that reflects the light beam from a photogenic organ 14, and carries out outgoing radiation outside, and this reflector 16 periodically, and is constituted. A light beam scan means consists of a reflector 16, a pedestal 17, and rotation equipment 18. As [ show / moreover, / at drawing 3 / between a photogenic organ 14 and an electric eye 15, and a reflector 16 ] The optical cable 19 having two thin optical fibers 19a and 19b with a diameter of about 1mm

is formed. One optical fiber 19a by the side of the end of an optical cable 19 is connected to light emitting device 14a of a photogenic organ 14, optical fiber 19b of another side is connected to photo detector 15a of an electric eye 15, and an other end side opens wide and is made to meet a reflector 16. [0016] Thereby, it is reflected with a reflector 16 through optical fiber 19a, and the light beam floodlighted from light emitting device 14a is floodlighted in external monitor space, and if a body is hit, it will reflect — having — the reflected light — a floodlighting beam and abbreviation — it reverses, incidence of the same path is carried out to a reflector 10, and it is reflected, it is led by optical fiber 19b, and light is received by photo detector 15a. And synchronizing with floodlighting actuation of a light beam, normal rotation / inversion drive of the reflector 16 is periodically carried out through a pedestal 17 at the circumference of rotation shaft 17a with rotation equipment 18, and a light beam is scanned to a longitudinal direction. Therefore, the body monitor field of the optical radar sensor 13 is expanded not only to the conventional optical—axis top but to an abbreviation flabellate form.

[0017] As shown in <u>drawing 4</u>, by the optical radar sensor 13, the compound form radar sensor 10 of this operation gestalt detects the body in the field of the range of A, and detects the body in the field of the range of B which overlaps the optical radar sensor 13 in part by the ultrasonic radar sensor 12. In addition, although this operation gestalt explained that the ultrasonic radar sensor could detect from an optical radar sensor to a distant place, the optical radar sensor may have a detection distance longer than an ultrasonic radar sensor, and the monitor field of an optical radar sensor and an ultrasonic radar sensor should just overlap.

[0018] According to this configuration, conventionally, in the case of equipment, as the broken line of drawing 4 shows, as the continuous line of drawing 4 shows, the body detection of only the body on the optical axis of an optical radar sensor having been detectable is attained in the field of an abbreviation flabellate form also for a short distance, the body detection of it is attained in the range where a short distance and a long distance are large, and the dependability of body detection improves for a short distance. In the case of the reflector 16 of the above-mentioned 1st operation gestalt, it becomes with the configuration which arranges a photogenic organ 14 and an electric eye 15 above a reflector 16, but as shown in drawing 5, it is also possible to consider as the configuration which arranges a photogenic organ 14 and an electric eye 15 at a side side using the rotatable tabular reflecting plate 21 to the circumference of the rotation shaft 22. A light beam can be floodlighted to an abbreviation flabellate form by rocking periodically the reflecting plate 21 as a light beam scan means to the circumference of the rotation shaft 22.

[0019] A commercial galvanomirror can be used as an example of such a reflecting plate 21. Moreover, if the semi-conductor galvanomirror manufactured using a micro-machining technique is used, a reflecting plate can be miniaturized, as a result the miniaturization of a compound radar sensor can be attained. the electromagnetism later mentioned as a semi-conductor galvanomirror — an electrostatic type galvanomirror and a piezo-electric mold galvanomirror are out of a mold galvanomirror.

[0020] An electrostatic type galvanomirror is the component manufactured in the semiconductor device manufacture process, drives the movable plate in which the mirror was formed, by electrostatic force, and is indicated by JP,5-60993,A etc. Moreover, a piezo-electric mold galvanomirror drives the movable plate in which the mirror was formed, by piezo-electric resonance, and is indicated by "Reprinted from Miniature and Micro-Optics;01 abrication and System Applications Volume 1554" of issue in SPIE-The International Society for Optical Engineering July, 1991.

[0021] electromagnetism here suitable as a reflecting plate 21 — the semi-conductor galvanomirror of a mold is explained, electromagnetism — the configuration of a mold semi-conductor galvanomirror and actuation are indicated by JP,8-220453,A concerning application of these people, and quote and explain the part. Although there is a point which is different in arrangement of a permanent magnet etc., there is no difference in a fundamental configuration and actuation.

[0022] If it says simply, the semi-conductor galvanomirror consists of the torsion bar spring which supports the really formed movable plate and this movable plate to revolve free [rocking] to a semi-conductor substrate to a semi-conductor substrate, a drive coil prepared in the periphery section of a movable plate, a field generating means to give a static magnetic field to this drive coil, and a mirror formed on \*\*\*\*. Drawing 6 and drawing 7 are drawings showing the configuration of a galvanomirror 120. This equipment operates by the same principle as a galvanometer (galvanometer). In addition, by drawing 6 and drawing 7, in order to make it intelligible, magnitude is exaggerated and shown.

[0023] In <u>drawing 6</u> and <u>drawing 7</u>, the semi-conductor galvanomirror 120 has a three-tiered structure which joined the bottom which becomes the vertical side of the silicon substrate 102 which is a semi-conductor substrate, for example from borosilicate glass etc., respectively, the plate-like top as a bottom

insulating substrate, and the bottom glass substrates 103 and 104. The laminating of the top glass substrate 103 is carried out to the right-and-left edge (it can set to <u>drawing 6</u>) of a silicon substrate 102 so that the movable-plate 105 upper part mentioned later may be opened.

[0024] The plate-like movable plate 105 and the torsion bar spring 106 which supports a movable plate 105 to revolve with the center position of this movable plate 105 rockable in the substrate vertical direction to a silicon substrate 102 are really formed in said silicon substrate 102 of the anisotropic etching in a semi-conductor manufacture process. Therefore, the movable plate 105 and the torsion bar spring 106 also consist of the same ingredient as a silicon substrate 102. The flat-surface coil 107 which consists of a copper thin film for passing the drive current for movable-plate 105 drive and the current for detection for displacement angle detection superimposed on this drive current is covered with the top-face periphery section of said movable plate 105 with an insulating coat, and is prepared in it. Said current for detection is for detecting the variation rate of a movable plate 105 based on a mutual inductance with the sensing coils 112A and 112B prepared so that it may mention later to the bottom glass substrate 104. About the angle-of-anomaly detection by these sensing coils 112A and 112B, it mentions later.

[0025] Moreover, it is formed in the top-face center section surrounded with the flat-surface coil 107 of a movable plate 105 by the technique in which a mirror 108 is well-known. Furthermore, the electrode terminal 109,109 of a pair electrically connected with the flat-surface coil 107 through the part of a torsion bar spring 106 is formed in the side top face of the torsion bar spring 106 of a silicon substrate 102, and this electrode terminal 109,109 is formed in a silicon substrate 102 at the flat-surface coil 107 and coincidence by the electrocasting coil magnetization method.

[0026] The permanent magnets 110A and 110B of the circle configuration which makes a field act on flat-surface coil 107 part of the opposite side of the movable plate 105 parallel to the shaft orientations of said torsion bar spring 106 and which makes a pair mutually, and 111A and 111B are prepared in the right-and-left side (it can set to drawing 6) of a top and the bottom glass substrates 103 and 104. As shown in drawing 7, every three permanent magnets 110A and 110B each which make a pair mutually [ the upper and lower sides ] are formed so that the bottom may serve as N pole and the bottom may serve as the south pole, so that an up-and-down polarity may become the same. Moreover, as shown in drawing 7, every three permanent magnets 111A and 111B each of another side are also formed so that the bottom may serve as the south pole and the bottom may serve as N pole, so that an up-and-down polarity may become the same. And the permanent magnets 110A and 111A by the side of the top glass substrate 103 and the permanent magnets 110B and 111B by the side of the bottom glass substrate 104 are formed so that drawing 7 may also show, and an up-and-down polarity may become opposite mutually.

[0027] Moreover, as mentioned above, patterning of the sensing coils 112A and 112B of a pair electrically connected to the electrode terminal 113,114 with which it is arranged possible [ the flat-surface coil 107 and an electromagnetic coupling ], and each edge makes a pair, respectively is carried out to the inferior surface of tongue of the bottom glass substrate 104, and they are prepared in it (in addition, by drawing 6, although one broken line showed typically, more than one are wound in practice). Sensing coils 112A and 112B are what is arranged to a torsion bar spring 106 at the position of symmetry, and detects the displacement angle of a movable plate 105. The mutual inductance of the flat-surface coil 107 and sensing coils 112A and 112B based on the current for detection superimposed and passed in the flat-surface coil 107 at a drive current Since it changes so that one side may approach with include-angle displacement of a movable plate 105, it may increase and another side may estrange and decrease in number, the displacement angle of a movable plate 105 is detectable by detecting change of the voltage signal outputted, for example based on a mutual inductance by differential.

[0028] Next, the principle of operation of the semi-conductor galvanomirror 120 is explained. In addition, since the detail of the principle of operation is indicated by above-mentioned JP,8-220453,A etc., it states briefly here. For example, a current is passed in the flat-surface coil 107, using the electrode terminal 109 of + pole and another side as one pole for one electrode terminal 109. On both sides of a movable plate 105, with permanent magnets 110A and 110B and permanent magnets 111A and 111B If the field is formed in the direction which crosses the flat-surface coil 107 along the flat surface of a movable plate 105 as shown in drawing 7, and a current flows in the flat-surface coil 107 in this field According to the current density and flux density of the flat-surface coil 107, in other words, to the both ends of a movable plate 105, the force acts in the flat-surface coil 107 and the direction according to the left-hand rule of Fleming of a current, flux density, and the force, and a movable plate 105 rotates. If a movable plate 105 rotates, a torsion bar spring 106 will be twisted, and a movable plate 105 is rotated to the location where the spring reaction force of the torsion bar spring 106 generated by this and the electromagnetic force which acts on a movable plate 105 balance.

[0029] The displacement angle of the movable plate 105 at this time is proportional to the current i which flows in the flat-surface coil 107. Therefore, the displacement angle of a movable plate 105 108, i.e., a mirror, is controllable by controlling the current passed in the flat-surface coil 107. If it asks for the relation between the amount of currents beforehand passed in a flat-surface coil, and the displacement angle of a movable plate, the displacement angle of a mirror 108 is controllable by controlling the amount of currents

[0030] In case the displacement angle of the optical axis of this mirror 108 is controlled, in the flat-surface coil 107, it superimposes on a drive current and the current for detection for displacement angle detection is passed on a high frequency compared with a drive current frequency. According to this current for detection, the induced voltage by the mutual inductance between the flat-surface coil 107 and the sensing coils 112A and 112B prepared in the bottom glass substrate 104 occurs in each sensing coil 112A and 112B. Each induced voltage generated in sensing coils 112A and 112B becomes equal from the distance of sensing coils 112A and 112B and the corresponding flat-surface coil 107 being equal when in other words a mirror 108 is in a horizontal position, a movable plate 105 and, and the difference is zero. If a movable plate 105 rotates a torsion bar spring 106 as a pivot with the above-mentioned driving force, at one sensing coil 112A (or 112B), it approaches and induced voltage increases by the increment in a mutual inductance, by sensing coil 112B (or 112A) of another side, it will estrange and induced voltage will fall by reduction in a mutual inductance. Therefore, the induced voltage generated in sensing coils 112A and 112B changes according to the variation rate of a mirror 108, is detecting this induced voltage and can detect the displacement angle of a mirror 108.

[0031] And for example, a power source is connected to the bridge circuit which prepared and constituted two resistance other than sensing coils 112A and 112B. The circuit which formed and constituted the differential amplifier which considers the electrical potential difference of the middle point of sensing coil 112A and sensing coil 112B and the middle point of two resistance as an input is used. If the output of the differential amplifier according to the electrical-potential-difference difference of said both middle points is fed back to the drive system of a movable plate 105 and a drive current is controlled, it is possible to control the displacement angle of a mirror 108 with a sufficient precision.

[0032] In addition, when applying to the compound-die radar sensor of this invention, it is not necessary to necessarily form sensing coils 112A and 112B. The application of the compound radar sensor 10 of this invention is shown in drawing 8. Drawing 8 shows the example which formed the compound radar sensors 10 and 10 in the mobile 32 order section which moves to a longitudinal direction as the arrow head in drawing shows along the migration way 31.

[0033] By this conventional kind of compound form radar sensor, a body detection field becomes like the dotted line of drawing 8. That is, in near [ which is the insensible zone of an ultrasonic radar sensor], it is a very narrow field only on the optical axis of an optical radar sensor. For this reason, in near [ of a mobile 32 ], it is hard to discover a body which appeared on the migration way 31 suddenly. on the other hand, by the compound form radar sensors 10 and 10 of this operation gestalt, since the body detection field already spreads out in the flabellate form from near [ of a sensor ] as the continuous line of drawing 8 shows, a sensor near body monitor field is markedly alike compared with the conventional compound form radar sensor, and becomes wide range, and even when a body appears suddenly in a sensor near, it becomes possible to discover this.

[0034] therefore, when people are on the migration way 31, a mobile 32 is alike and more expensive [this collision-avoidance capacity / the compound-die radar sensor of this invention ] compared with the conventional thing, although stopping before colliding with people is called for. By the way, when neither a supersonic wave nor a light beam occurs in failure of a sensor in the case of a reflex radar sensor, it cannot distinguish from the case where he has no body. Therefore, the engine-performance check with the normal sensor itself is needed.

[0035] In order to inspect the detectability ability in the compound form radar sensor of this invention to below, the example of circuitry is explained to it. The example of a configuration of a detectability ability inspection circuit is shown in drawing 9. In drawing 9, the distance detector 41 as a distance detection means of an ultrasonic radar sensor to detect distance deltaL from the sending signal of transmitting section 12A and the input signal from receive section 12B to a body based on the above-mentioned detection principle is established in the ultrasonic radar sensor 12. Moreover, the distance detector 42 which functions as the distance detection means and judgment means of an optical radar sensor of detecting distance deltaL from an electric eye 15 to the sending signal of a photogenic organ 14 and a light-receiving signal to a body is formed also in the optical radar sensor 13. And the calculation result of both the distance detectors 41 and 42 is outputted as output signals S1 and S2. It checks whether said

both outputs S1 and S2 of the coincidence check circuit 43 as a coincidence check means correspond within the limits of the range specified beforehand, i.e., the duplication monitor field of the ultrasonic radar sensor 12 and the optical radar sensor 13, when in agreement, output signal S3=1 (logical value 1) is outputted, and S3=0 (logical value 0) is outputted at the time of an inequality. The distance information on said duplication monitor field is memorized in said coincidence check circuit 43, and it is the configuration of performing a coincidence check only by duplication monitor field within the limits. [0036] Next, actuation is explained. As the body monitor field A of the optical radar sensor 13 and the body monitor field B of the ultrasonic radar sensor 12 in the compound form radar sensor 10 show now drawing 10 R> 0, it shall overlap in part. And a body 50 shall exist in this duplication monitor field. The body 50 with which both the ultrasonic radar sensor 12 and the optical radar sensor 13 exist in distance deltaL in a duplication monitor field is detected, and the detection distance result is inputted into the coincidence check circuit 43 as S2 and S1 from each distance detectors 42 and 41. In the coincidence check circuit 43, the distance information to input checks that it is within the limits of the distance information memorized beforehand, and compares the result of both the outputs S1 and S2 based on this check. And it memorizes until next coincidence check actuation is performed in this normal judging by outputting S3=1 as both radar sensor normal if in agreement. In addition, in this coincidence check circuit 43, only when the calculation result from outputs S1 and S2 is in the duplication field range, coincidence check actuation is performed, and in the case of the other monitor field, coincidence check actuation is not performed. When it follows, for example, the body of duplication monitor field within the limits is detected, a body detection output is confirmed a condition [ a coincidence check ], and when a body is detected outside the duplication monitor field range with one of the ultrasonic radar sensor 12 and the optical radar sensors 13, the body detection output is confirmed as it is.

[0037] With this configuration, it is inspecting that the detection function of an optical radar sensor and an ultrasonic radar sensor built in the compound form radar sensor is normal by checking coincidence of the distance computed by each sensor about the same body 50. Moreover, it is a time of a body 50 being in both duplication monitor field that the distance information S2 and S1 is acquired from each radar sensors 12 and 13. Therefore, in the coincidence check circuit 43 of drawing 9, it will also be checked that the monitor field of a mutual radar sensor overlaps a detectability ability check and coincidence.

[0038] However, with neither of coincidence check configuration of <u>drawing 9</u>, since both sensors cannot be detected but a body 50 is regarded as the coincidence check circuit 43 having no body even if the metaphor body 50 exists in a duplication monitor field when both the radar sensors 12 and 13 lose ability to detect (for example, \*\*\*\* to which a light beam is not floodlighted and a supersonic wave is not transmitted), coincidence failure of both the radar sensors 12 and 13 can be checked.

[0039] The existence of the reverberation of an ultrasonic radar sensor is checked, for example, and the coincidence check circuit 43 should just be made to perform coincidence check actuation as an approach of solving this problem a condition [ the check with reverberation ]. As mentioned above, since, as for immediately after transmission to a predetermined period (reverberation period of <u>drawing 12</u>), reverberation remains in the case of the ultrasonic radar sensor 12, detectability ability inspection of an ultrasonic radar sensor can be conducted by checking this reverberation. In addition, a well–known approach should just be conventionally used for the approach of the engine–performance check by reverberation check.

[0040] Moreover, the coincidence check circuit 43 of drawing 9 can conduct performance verification, only when a body 50 exists in a duplication monitor field. Therefore, it cannot but wait until a body goes into a duplication monitor field, or the radar sensor itself cannot but run by the configuration of drawing 9. What is necessary is to install reflectors 61 and 62 in a duplication monitor field beforehand at drawing 10, as a broken line shows, and just to make it monitor the existence of the reflection from reflectors 61 and 62 continuously, in order to enable it to conduct detectability ability inspection also except a duplication monitor field. By carrying out like this, the reflected wave from the reflectors 61 and 62 installed in the duplication monitor field for every sending—signal generating of both the radar sensor is obtained, coincidence check actuation is always performed in the coincidence check circuit 43, and detectability ability inspection and the check of duplication of a monitor field can be performed.

[0041] Furthermore, for the check of the width of face of a monitor field, reflectors 61 and 62 are installed in the location of distance delta L1 and delta L2 which is different to the both ends of a duplication monitor field, respectively. If it carries out like this, since the reflector 61 in distance deltaL1 and the reflector 62 in distance deltaL2 can be distinguished and detected, width of face of a duplication monitor field can be checked according to the check with the detectable reflectors 61 and 62 of duplication monitor field both ends.

[0042] The method of installing the reflector in the both ends of a monitor field beforehand, and inspecting ability to detect of an optical radar sensor by the reflected light from there is indicated by Japanese Patent Application No. No. 305932 [ nine to ] concerning application of these people etc., and is explained below about this. The configuration of the inspection circuit is shown in drawing 11. In drawing 11, a reflecting plate 21 is the above-mentioned semi-conductor galvanomirror by which a rocking drive is carried out periodically in the drive circuit 71. The displacement detector 72 detects the displacement angle of a reflecting plate 21 based on the output of the above-mentioned sensing coils 112A and 112B. A pulse forming network 73 generates a pulse to the reflective timing of reflectors 61 and 62. The detectability ability inspection circuit 74 conducts detectability ability inspection of the optical radar sensor 13, extracts the signal by reflection of reflectors 61 and 62 based on the generating pulse signal of a pulse forming network 73 from the light-receiving signal of an electric eye 15, and checks detectability ability normal. The optical radar sensor inspection means consists of the electric eye 15, a displacement detector 72, a pulse forming network 73, and a detectability ability inspection circuit 74.

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[0043] Next, actuation of this circuit is explained. In addition, since detailed actuation is indicated by Japanese Patent Application No. No. 305932 [ nine to ] mentioned above, it explains briefly here. If a reflecting plate 21 rocks periodically the monitor field of the range to reflectors 61–62, induced voltage will occur in the above-mentioned sensing coils 112A and 112B in the amplitude corresponding to the displacement angle of a reflector 21, and the voltage signal corresponding to the displacement angle of a reflecting plate 21 will input into a pulse forming network 73 from the displacement detector 72. In a pulse forming network 73, level assay of the voltage signal from the displacement detector 72 and the phase inversion signal of this voltage signal is carried out, respectively, and a pulse signal is generated in tongue MINGU from which the reflected light from reflectors 61 and 62 is obtained, respectively. In the detectability ability inspection circuit 74, if both signals synchronize and input based on the light-receiving signal from an electric eye 15, and the pulse signal from a pulse forming network 73, it will judge that it is normal and a normal check output will be generated.

[0044] If it does in this way, the reflecting plate 21 is scanning the range of reflectors 61 and 62 periodically normally, and it can turn out that the reflected light from reflectors 61 and 62 is received normally, and the detectability ability of the optical radar sensor 13 can be inspected. and by confirming the output of the coincidence check circuit 43, on condition that the optical radar sensor 13 is normal, detectability ability of the compound form radar sensor 10 can be inspected, and the dependability of the body monitor of the compound form radar sensor 10 is markedly alike, and always improves. [0045]

[Effect of the Invention] Since the body monitor field by the optical radar sensor becomes a flabellate form according to invention of claims 1 and 4 as explained above, by the ultrasonic radar sensor, the near field which cannot perform a body monitor can also be broadly supervised now, can make a monitor field wide range compared with the conventional compound form radar sensor, and can improve the dependability of a body monitor.

[0046] If a body exists in the monitor field to which an ultrasonic radar sensor and an optical radar sensor overlap according to invention of claim 2, since it can inspect whether the detectability ability of both the radar sensor is normal, the dependability of a compound radar sensor can improve more. In invention of claim 3, while being able to inspect the detectability ability of an ultrasonic radar sensor and an optical radar sensor, the width of face of a monitor field can also be checked.

[0047] Like the publication to claim 5, if a semi-conductor galvanomirror is used, an optical radar sensor can be miniaturized for the light beam scan means of an optical radar sensor, as a result the miniaturization of a compound form radar sensor can be attained for it.

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# **DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS**

[Brief Description of the Drawings]

[Drawing 1] The external view of the 1st operation gestalt of the compound form radar sensor of this invention

[Drawing 2] The schematic diagram of the rotation device of the optical radar sensor of an operation gestalt same as the above

[Drawing 3] The schematic diagram of the optical fiber used for (A) and (B) optical radar sensor

[Drawing 4] The comparison Fig. of the monitor field of this invention and the conventional example

[Drawing 5] The schematic diagram showing another operation gestalt of the optical radar sensor rotation device of the compound form radar sensor of this invention

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[Drawing 6] Drawing showing the configuration of a semi-conductor galvanomirror

[Drawing 7] The A-A view sectional view of drawing 6

[Drawing 8] Drawing showing the application of the compound form radar sensor of this invention

[Drawing 9] The block diagram showing the example of a configuration of the detectability ability inspection circuit of the compound form radar sensor of this invention

[Drawing 10] The plot plan of a reflector used for detectability ability inspection of an optical radar sensor

[Drawing 11] Drawing showing the example of a configuration of the detectability ability inspection circuit of the optical radar sensor using the reflector of drawing 10

[Drawing 12] The explanatory view of the reverberation of an ultrasonic radar sensor

[Drawing 13] The block diagram of conventional equipment

[Drawing 14] The schematic diagram of the internal configuration of drawing 13

[Description of Notations]

10 Compound Form Radar Sensor

12 Ultrasonic Radar Sensor

13 Optical Radar Sensor

14 Photogenic Organ

15 Electric Eye

16 Reflector

18 Rotation Equipment

21 Reflecting Plate

41 42 Distance detector

43 Coincidence Check Circuit

50 Body

61 62 Reflector

72 Displacement Detector

73 Pulse Forming Network

74 Detectability Ability Inspection Circuit

# [Translation done.]

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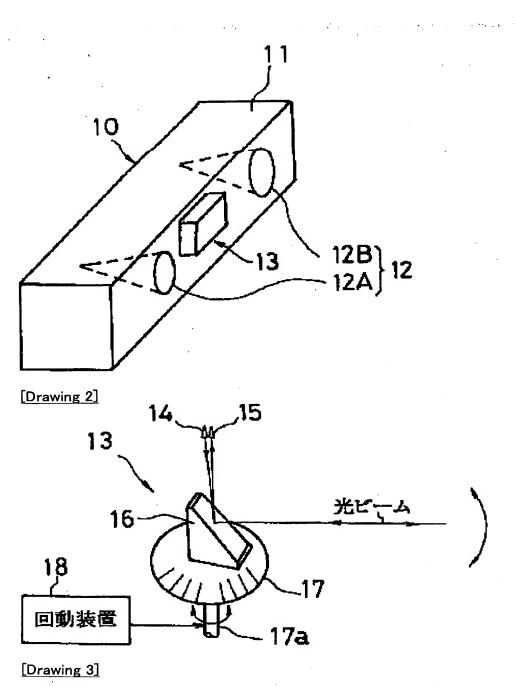
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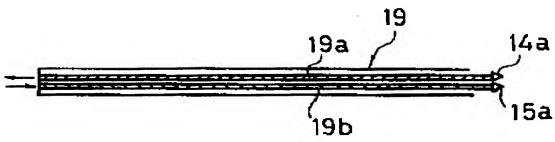
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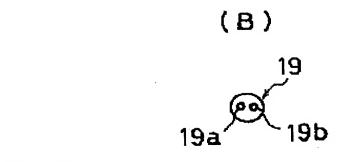
#### **DRAWINGS**

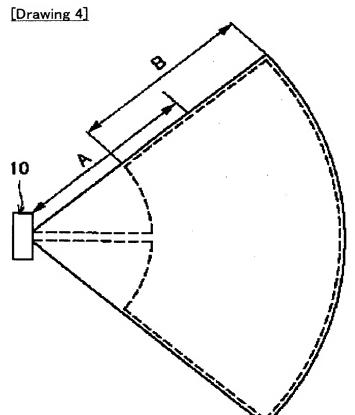
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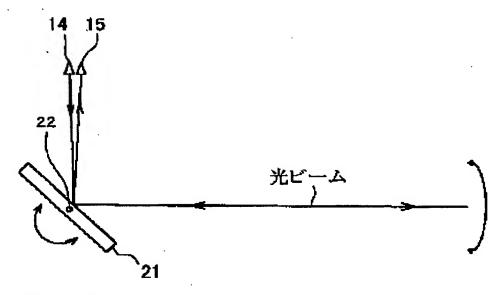


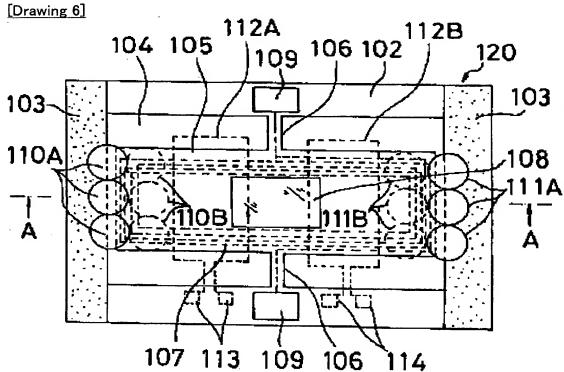


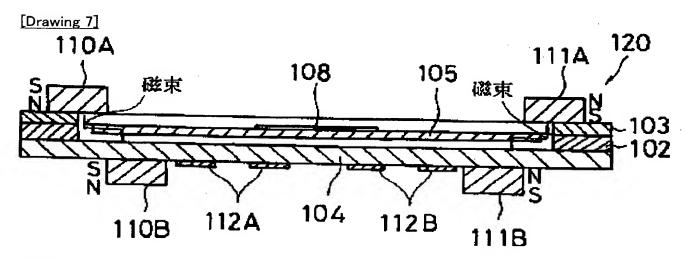




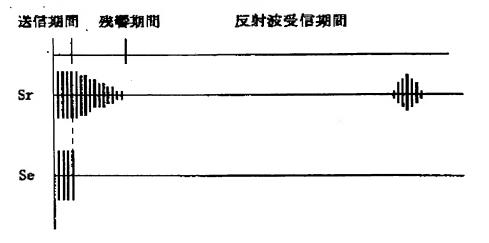
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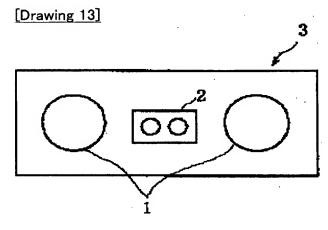


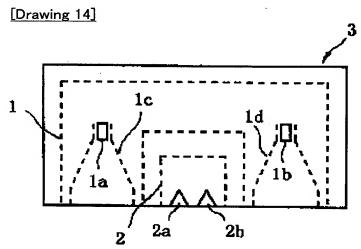




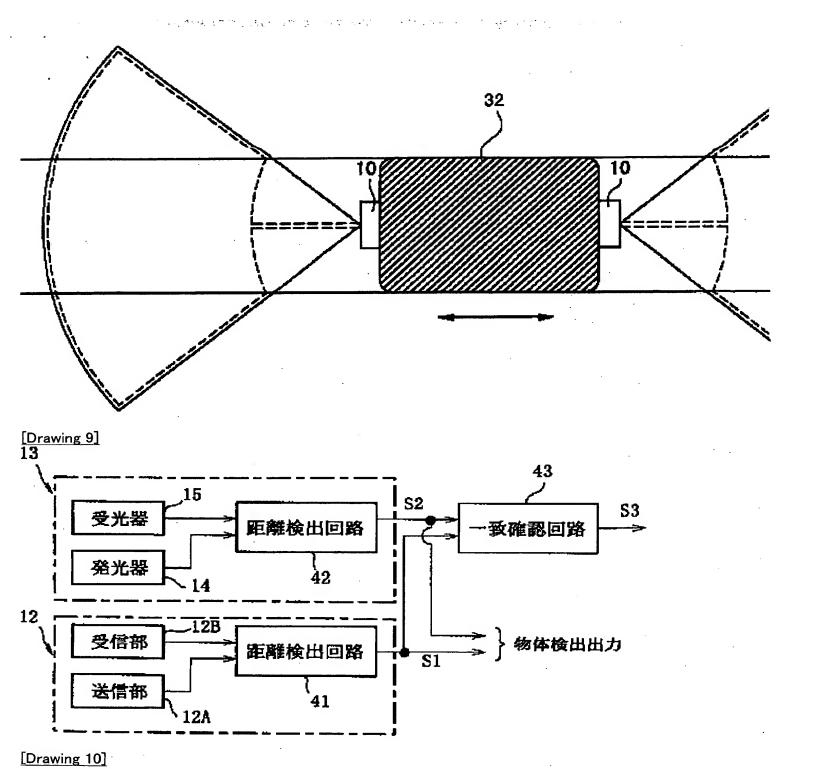
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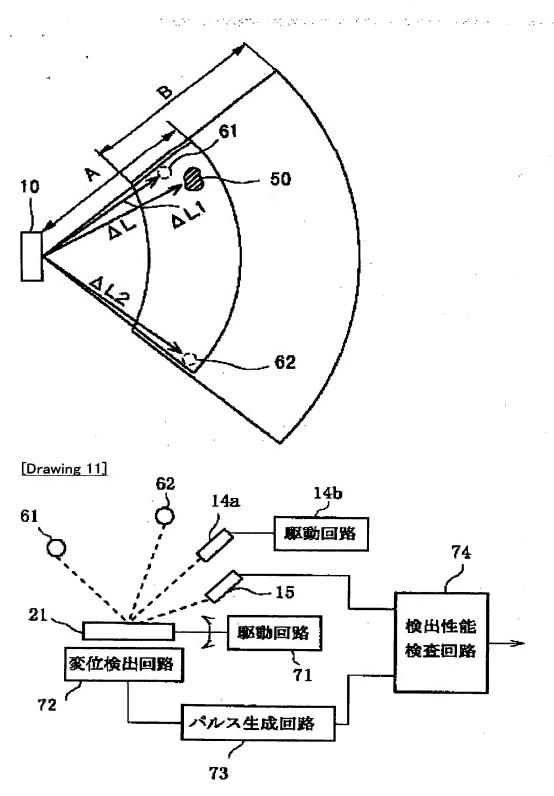






[Drawing 8]





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